Appl. No. NOT YET ASSIGNED Amdt. dated March 12, 2004 Preliminary Amendment

Amendments to the Abstract:

Please replace the current abstract with the following replacement abstract:

The invention provides methods Methods of introducing heterologous cells into fish are provided. After introduction cells remain viable, and in some instances proliferate, for sufficient time to conduct a variety of analyses on the heterologous cells or the fish or both. Such methods are useful for screening potential drugs for toxicity toward introduced cells or for capacity to stimulate differentiation and/or proliferation of introduced cells. Such methods are also useful, for example, for diagnosing the presence of small quantities of cancerous cells or pathogens in patient tissue samples.—Such methods are also useful for culturing cells for subsequent use in cell or tissue engineering.